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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD**

**WHITEHALL COLLEGE,  
DANE O'COYS ROAD, BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTFORDSHIRE**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

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NGR: TL 4830 2243	Report No. 3272
District: Bishop's Stortford	Site Code: AS 1188
Approved: Claire Halpin MIFA	Project No. 3346
Signed:	Date: April 2009 Revised: January 2012

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## 7. OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

<b>Project details</b>			
Project name	<i>Whitehall College, Dane O'Coys Road, Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire, An Archaeological Evaluation</i>		
Project description:	<p><i>In March 2009 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation at Whitehall College, Dane O'Coys Road, Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 6098 3083). The programme was undertaken prior to the demolition of modern accommodation and office blocks, the conversion of the two main houses and a row of terraced cottages on the site into private dwellings, together with the construction of six new houses in the surrounding grounds and a new cricket ground. The evaluation comprised a series of trial trenches.</i></p> <p><i>The evaluation revealed a linear feature (ditch) dated to the late Iron Age to Roman period and 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century farm buildings. It also revealed undated pits and two ditches as well as part of a silted pond.</i></p>		
Project dates (fieldwork)	<i>18<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> March 2009</i>		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>	Future work (Y/N/?)	<i>TBC</i>
P. number	<i>3346</i>	Site code	<i>AS 1188</i>
Type of project	<i>Archaeological evaluation</i>		
Site status	<i>N/A</i>		
Current land use	<i>Detached house, buildings to be demolished and grounds</i>		
Planned development	<i>Conversion of the building into a single new house, construction of six new houses and new cricket ground</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>LIA ditch, 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> Century farm building, two undated ditches</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	<i>LIA pottery, Roman CBM, post-medieval CBM, a Cu alloy object</i>		
<b>Project location</b>			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Hertfordshire</i>	<i>East Hertfordshire</i>	<i>Bishop's Stortford</i>
HER/ SMR for area	<i>Hertfordshire HER</i>		
Post code (if known)	<i>CM23 2JP</i>		
Area of site	<i>7.32 ha</i>		
NGR	<i>TL 4830 2243</i>		
Height AOD (max/ min)	<i>70 – 90m AOD</i>		
<b>Project creators</b>			
Brief issued by	<i>Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Unit</i>		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	<i>Zbigniew Pozorski, Tim Schofield</i>		
Funded by	<i>Robert Parr, Zinc Construction Ltd</i>		
Full title	<i>Whitehall College, Dane O'Coys Road, Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire, An Archaeological Evaluation</i>		
Authors	<i>Pozorski Z.</i>		
Report no.	<i>3272</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>April 2009 (Revised January 2012)</i>		

**WHITEHALL COLLEGE,  
DANE O'COYS ROAD, BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTFORDSHIRE**

**SUMMARY**

*In March 2009 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation at Whitehall College, Dane O'Coys Road, Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 6098 3083). The programme was undertaken before the demolition of modern accommodation and office blocks, the conversion of the two main houses and a row of terraced cottages on the site into private dwellings, together with the construction of six new houses in the surrounding grounds and a new cricket ground. The evaluation comprised sixteen trial trenches within the areas proposed for development.*

*The evaluation revealed a linear feature (ditch) dated to the late Iron Age to Roman period (Trench 3) and 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century farm buildings (Trenches 3, 4 and 6). A post-medieval ditch and pit were located in Trench 5. It also revealed undated pits and two ditches as well as parts of two silted ponds.*

**1 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 In March 2009 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation at Whitehall College, Dane O'Coys Road, Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 4832 2241, Figs 1, 2 and 8). The work was commissioned by Robert Parr of Zinc Construction Ltd and was carried out as a planning condition on approval for the proposed renovation and change of use of a college building to a dwelling, demolition of several college buildings, renovation and extension of 4 college buildings, an existing barn, the construction of a replacement dwelling and 6 new dwellings and the creation of a cricket pitch/field (EHDC Planning Ref. 3/1160/08/FP). The evaluation was carried out to comply with requirements of Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Unit (HCC HEU).

1.2 The archaeological evaluation was conducted in accordance with a brief issued by HCC HEU (A. Tinniswood, dated 1/12/2008) and a written scheme of investigation (specification) prepared by AS (dated 17/02/2009), and approved by HCC HEU. The evaluation followed a programme of historic building recording carried out at the site by AS in February 2009 (AS Report No. 3267). The project conformed to the procedures outlined in the Institute of Field Archaeologists' (IFA) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (revised 2001) and *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The principal objectives of the archaeological trial trench evaluation were to determine the location, date, extent, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. In particular, it will be important to establish the presence or absence of any remains relating to medieval or post-medieval occupation of the site, or to identify any activity of earlier periods. It was also deemed important to understand the level of truncation on the site and also to ascertain whether it will be possible to



mitigate the development proposals to accommodate any surviving archaeological remains within the area of proposed developments.

## **Planning policy context**

1.4 The relevant planning policies which apply to the effect of development with regard to cultural heritage are Planning Policy Guidance Note 15 'Planning and the Historic Environment' (PPG15) and Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 'Archaeology and Planning' (PPG16) (Department of the Environment).

1.5 PPG16 (1990) is the national Planning Policy Guidance Note which applies to archaeology. It states that there should always be a presumption in favour of preserving nationally important archaeological remains in situ. However, when there is no overriding case for preservation, developers are required to fund opportunities for the recording and, where necessary, the excavation of the site. This condition is widely applied by local authorities.

1.6 PPG15 (1994) is the national Planning Policy Guidance Note which applies to the conservation of the historic environment by protecting the character and appearance of Conservation Areas and protecting listed buildings (of architectural or historical interest) from demolition and unsympathetic change and safeguarding their settings as far as is possible. This condition is also widely applied by local authorities.

## **2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE (Fig. 1-2)**

2.1 Bishop's Stortford is a substantial town on the eastern edge of Hertfordshire, immediately adjacent to the border with Essex. It lies in the valley of the River Stort, which flows south and then west to meet the Lee at Hoddesdon, itself eventually meeting the Thames. The town is served by numerous major roads including the M11 motorway a short distance to the east, which runs north from London to Cambridge. The A120 extends westwards from the town towards the A10 and Hertford while in the opposite direction it crosses the motorway to reach London Stansted Airport a short distance further to the east. The A1184 extends southwards from the town towards the neighbouring settlements of Sawbridgeworth and Harlow.

2.2 Whitehall College lies just to the south of Dane O'Coys Road, a minor road which makes a short circular loop of c. 1.5 km into open countryside north of the main built-up area of Bishop's Stortford. The A120 lies some 0.5 km to the north, beyond which open farmland continues towards the hamlet of Farnham. Much of the surrounding area is planted with trees and Whitehall lies in substantial wooded grounds of its own. It consists of a roughly rectangular plot of land fronting Dane O'Coys Road and covering an area of approximately 7.32 hectares.

2.3 The former college consists of a number of structures. To the west is Whitehall House itself (DP 1), a substantial country house which is to be retained with alterations during the present construction works and converted into a single dwelling. To the south-east is Venn House, a smaller house which is also to be altered and retained as a dwelling. To the north-east is a row of small cottages which

will be retained and extended while between Whitehall House and Venn House are the accommodation block and offices of the former college which are both to be demolished.

### **3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS**

3.1 The site lies on gently sloping and undulating land forming part of the floodplain of the River Stort, which flows north to south approximately 500m to the east (Fig. 1). The river then flows westwards to meet the River Lee at Hoddesdon, itself eventually meeting the River Thames near London. Situated on the eastern side of the river valley, the site reaches a height of 90m AOD at its north-western extent and falls away to the south to a height of approximately 70m AOD, respecting the general lie of the land. Despite its proximity to the town of Bishop's Stortford less than 100m to the south-east, the site and its surrounding area have retained a distinctly rural character.

3.2 The settlement of Bishop's Stortford is situated on a cusp of two different solid geologies comprising both Lower Eocene Reading Beds, namely a complex of vertically and laterally varying gravels, sands, silts and clays, to the north and Eocene London Clay to the south (BGS 2006). The site also lies on the cusp of two different soil associations, which belies its drift over tertiary clay geology to the west and chalky till to the east (SSEW 1983). The former is overlain by soils of the Wickham 4 Association, which are described as slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loamy over clayey and fine silty over clayey soils associated with similar clayey soils, often with brown subsoils. To the east are deep, well drained fine loamy over clayey, coarse loamy over clayey and fine loamy soils, some with calcareous clayey subsoils of the Melford Association (*ibid.*).

### **4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND (Fig. 3)**

#### **Prehistoric**

4.1 In contrast to the valley of the River Lea to the south-west, the Stort valley has produced few finds of early prehistoric date. An ovate Palaeolithic handaxe was found 380m to the south-east of the site (HER 13312), whilst Mesolithic flints were recovered from a site 550m to the south-east (HER 2133). Further evidence of possible Mesolithic occupation is known along the River Stort 800m to the south-east on the basis of finds of a tranchet axe, several flakes and cores and some pottery (HER 2849). Evidence of Bronze Age and Iron Age activity is well-known from Bishop's Stortford, particularly on the higher plateaux surrounding the town (Crank, McDonald & Murray 2001), yet no later prehistoric remains are known from the area surrounding the site.

#### **Romano-British**

4.2 The earliest settlement within Bishop's Stortford dates from the Romano-British period, and was located at the point where *Stane Street* (which runs to the south of Whitehall), the Roman road from St Albans to Colchester, crossed the Stort

(Margery 1973). The settlement appears to have been centred on the Cannons Close estate to the east and along the northern side of *Stane Street* (Ellcock 1970). A number of Romano-British remains have been recovered from the area surrounding the site, yet mainly comprise chance finds of Roman coins dating from the reigns of Hadrian (AD 117 - 138) to Constantine (AD 306 - 337) (HERs 1342, 2134, 2143 & 2296). Late Roman pottery sherds and ironwork were also found along *Stane Street* 700m to the south-west (HER 127), whilst excavations at Grange Paddocks 700m to the south-east revealed two distinct phases of Roman occupation dated to the 1<sup>st</sup> and later 3<sup>rd</sup> century, including an inhumation cemetery of four individuals dated AD 50-410 (HERs 6505 & 12051; Crank, McDonald & Murray 2001).

## Anglo-Saxon

4.3 The Roman settlement at Bishop's Stortford had fallen into disuse by the 5<sup>th</sup> century, along with the *Stane Street* river crossing. The area of North Street, High Street and Market Street in the present town are thought to date to the Saxon period (Orton 1976). Nothing is known of the Saxon town and the surrounding area has revealed no known Anglo-Saxon remains.

## Medieval

4.4 The Domesday Book of 1086 refers to the town as *Storteford*, likely to have derived from a reference to the River Stort (Gover *et al* 1938). On the eastern bank of the river opposite the town stood Waytemore Castle and deer park, which is variously attributed to Edward the Elder in the 10<sup>th</sup> century or William I following the Norman Conquest of 1066 (Page 1913, 297). After the Conquest, the manor of Stortford was sold by William I to William, Bishop of London, and remained in the possession of successive Bishops of London until 1868 (Page 1913, 296). At Much Hadam (west-south-west of the current site), a medieval deer park belonging to the Bishops of London is documented from 1199 (HER 9971). The town's present name Bishop's Stortford resulted from this ecclesiastical association, with the Bishops also owning a palace at Much Hadham.

4.5 During the medieval period, Rye Street or *Rystret*, which lies 500m to the east of the site, was one of the four major roads leading from the town and demarcated by a cross (Gover *et al* 1938). It became known as Crabb's Cross, but was destroyed either at the Reformation or during the Commonwealth (HER 2830). From the medieval period onwards, Bishop's Stortford developed into a thriving commercial centre, attested by the large numbers of inns in the town and the presence of a fair three times a year (BSDLHS 1973).

## Post-medieval & Modern

4.6 Perhaps the most important event in the later history of Bishop's Stortford was the opening of the Stort Navigation in 1769, linking Bishop's Stortford with London via the early 18<sup>th</sup> century Lea Navigation (Peachey 2007). This provided a further incentive to commercial development, leading to an increase in brewing and malting, which became the town's most important industries during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The north-western section of the town, which includes the site, however, remained

dominated by agricultural properties such as the early 16<sup>th</sup> century farmhouse at Dane O'Coys Farm (HER 11100), an early modern windmill along Whitehall Lane, series of water meadow drains beside the River Stort, Foxdells Farm and the former farmstead at Whitehall (HERs 6857, 10230, 15328 & 15327).

4.7 The HER database reveals that the north-eastern section of the site incorporates the early modern farmstead of *Whitehall Farm* with ranges of buildings around a yard located to the south of Dane O'Coys Road, and with the 20<sup>th</sup> century college buildings to the west of the farm (HER 15327). A large number of documents concerning Whitehall College, previously *Whitehall Farm*, survive at Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies Library (HALS) and attest to its later 19<sup>th</sup> century origins.

4.8 A plan of *Whitehall Farm*, dated 4<sup>th</sup> June 1877, confirms the sale of Whitehall Farm to John Fairman at a cost of £14,200 (Ref. D/E Te/T5-6). A later conveyance dated 19<sup>th</sup> January 1894 records the sale of "*Whitehall Farm comprising 139a[cres] 1r[ood] 39p[erches] of freehold land in Bishops Stortford...*" from "...*Frederick W. Chaplin to Sir Walter Gilbey Bar[one]t*" (Ref. D/ETe(Add)T2). Only three years later a further conveyance dated 10<sup>th</sup> March 1897 records that Sir Walter sold the farm on to "*Tresham Gilbey Esq.*". It is possible that the house now standing at the centre of the site was built for Mr Gilbey and his wife; particularly given that the structure is heavily influenced by the Arts & Crafts traditions still fashionable at that time (see Williams and Prosser 2009).

4.9 Local history sources suggest that the Gilbey estate at Whitehall was broken up in 1947 following the death of *Tresham Gilbey* (BSDLHS 1973). During the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century *Whitehall House* was converted into a boarding house for girls attending Chantry Mount High School, whilst from 1980 until 2007 it was the headquarters of the Manufacturing Science and Finance Union. In addition to the 'Arts & Crafts' style Whitehall House and the 19<sup>th</sup> century Venn House, the site also incorporates an associated theatre and bedroom block building and an office block, all of which likely date to the Manufacturing Science and Finance Union occupation of the site.

## 5 CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

5.1 The earliest cartographic source used to depict the area of Bishop's Stortford in any detail comprises the Bishop's Stortford & Farnham enclosure map, which dates to 1822 (Ref. QS/E/82; not illustrated). Although the enclosure map does not show the site itself, it clearly shows the boundary of the site and notes the owner as "*Mssrs. Hawkes & Co.*". In contrast, the site is clearly visible on Bishop's Stortford tithe map of 1839 and comprises a single plot of land (#191; Ref. DSA4/21/2; Fig. 4). The accompanying tithe award of the same date describes the site as a "*Homestead*" occupied by "*Hawkes and Company*" and owned jointly by "*William Hawkes, Robert Johnson, William Nash, Frederick John Bird, William Bird, Thomas Nash, [and] Gifford Jones*" (Ref. DSA4/21/1).

5.2 In 1839, the Bishop's Stortford tithe map indicates that the site appears to have contained two buildings: a small domestic structure at the south-east corner and a larger, more complex, probably agricultural building extending along the north-eastern boundary on Dane O'Coys Road (Fig. 4). This road and the others around it

appear to be in much the configuration they are today although the western part of the triangle of minor roads now visible to the east of Whitehall has not yet been built. The wider area remains largely rural in appearance with large fields sloping towards the River Stort and scattered trees.

5.3 The aforementioned plan of Whitehall Farm, which dates to 1877, was attached to the conveyance discussed above, yet provides little additional information as the two buildings appear in exactly the same configuration as before (Fig. 5; Ref. D/E Te/T5-6). The document does, however, provide an exact record of the extent of the estate attached to the buildings at this time. The 2<sup>nd</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map of 1898 (Fig. 6) shows that considerable change had occurred in the 20 years since the 1877 plan. While the two original buildings appear to remain in place, they have been augmented and extended considerably so that the space between them is now enclosed as a courtyard by a new range to the west while further separate buildings have appeared to the south-west and north-east. The whole complex is clearly labelled “*Whitehall*”, and the triangle of minor roads to the east of the site has also been completed.

5.4 By the time of the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map of 1921 (Fig. 7), it appears that the site has expanded considerably to the west and that a large country house, labelled “*Whitehall*” has been built in this new section. The structure was L-shaped in plan with a patio and steps to the rear giving access to extensive planted grounds. To the front façade, there appears to be an entrance porch while a number of accretions to the east suggest a service wing. The original site has also developed, the domestic building to the south-east corner having been demolished and rebuilt as a larger structure, labelled on the map as “*Whitehall Cottage*”. The whole complex is still accessed from the western arm of the triangle of minor roads to the east, now labelled “*Whitehall Road*” whilst the new house could also be accessed from Dane O’Coys Road.

## 6 METHODOLOGY

6.1 The evaluation by trial trenching comprised a 5% sample of the site. This equated to sixteen trenches, measuring 20m x 1.8m, excavated in locations approved by HCC HEU (Fig. 8). Ten trenches were located in the area of the proposed new dwellings (Trenches 1-9) and six trenches within the area of the new cricket pitch (Trenches 10-15).

6.2 Proposed Trench 7 was split into 2 trenches, Trenches 7a and 7b (Fig. 8), which were partially realigned to avoid existing services. Also Trench 3 was moved some 8m to the north of its planned location due to the presence of stockpiled building materials in that area.

6.3 The trenches were mechanically excavated, under constant archaeological supervision, using a 360° tracked and 180° wheeled excavators, both fitted with a toothless ditching buckets. Topsoil and undifferentiated overburden were removed mechanically under close archaeological supervision. All further investigation was undertaken by hand. Exposed surfaces were cleaned by hand and examined for archaeological features and finds. Deposits were recorded using *pro-forma* recording



sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil was searched for finds and the trenches were scanned with a metal detector. Trench locations were surveyed using a Total Station Theodolite.

## 7 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

### 7.1 Trench 1 (Fig. 9; DP 4)

*Sample sections:*

<i>West end, north facing</i> <i>0.00 = 89.93m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.21m	L1000	Topsoil. Mid greyish brown, moderately loose clayey silt.
0.21 – 0.49m	L1051	Subsoil. Light yellowish brown, compact clayey silt.
0.49m +	L1006	Natural clay. Mid brownish yellow, compact clay with chalk.

*Table 1. Trench 1, sample section 1 (DP 6)*

<i>East end, north facing</i> <i>0.00 = 89.93m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.24m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.24 – 0.59m	L1051	Subsoil. As above.
0.59m +	L1065	Fill of possible pond. Light yellowish brown, firm silty clay.
0.59m +	L1006	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 2. Trench 1, sample section 2*

*Description of results:*

Trench 1 contained one feature. F1064 (7.60+ x 1.80+ x 1.40m+) was present in the eastern third of the trench, extending beyond its limits. It exhibited moderately steep sides to the north and its base was not reached as the depth of excavation reached 1.40m below existing. It contained a single fill L1065 (see Table 2) which differed only very slightly from subsoil L1051. It is possible that this feature was a naturally silted pond or depression and it contained no finds.

### 7.2 Trench 2 (Fig. 9; DP 7)

*Sample sections:*

<i>West end, north facing</i> <i>0.00 = 89.90m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.19m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.19 – 0.51m	L1062	Made-ground. Mixed mid greyish brown silt with yellow clay and brick rubble.
0.51 – 0.62m	L1063	Dark brownish grey, loose clayey silt.
0.62 – 0.84m	L1051	Subsoil. As above.
0.84m +	L1006	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 3. Trench 2, sample section 3 (DP 8)*

<i>East end, north facing</i> <i>0.00 = 89.89m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.25m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.25 – 0.79m	L1062	Made-ground As above.
0.79 – 1.02m	L1063	As above.
1.02 – 1.07m	L1051	Subsoil. As above.
1.07m +	L1006	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 4. Trench 2, sample section 4*

*Description of results:*

No archaeological features or finds were present.

7.3 Trench 3 (Fig. 9; DP 9, 10)

*Sample sections:*

<i>West end, north facing</i> <i>0.00 = 89.16m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.24m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.24 – 0.74m	L1050	Mid brownish grey, loose sandy silt with CBM, glass, china and charcoal.
0.74 – 1.02m	L1051	Subsoil. As above.
1.02m +	L1006	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 5. Trench 3, sample section 8 (DP 16)*

<i>East end, north facing</i> <i>0.00 = 89.03m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.30 – 1.04m	L1050	As above.
1.04 – 1.26m	L1051	Subsoil. As above.
1.26m +	L1006	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 6. Trench 3, sample section 7*

*Description of results:*

Trench 3 contained Ditch F1048 and Walls M1025 and M1028 (building S1029), M1033 and M1036 (building S1037), M1042, and M1045 (building S1046).

F1048 was a linear ditch orientated N/S (1.80+ x 1.03 x 0.46m), located in the central part of the trench. It had moderate sides and a concave base (DP 15). Its single fill, L1049, was mid greyish brown, compact clayey silt. It contained late Iron Age pottery (257g), Roman CBM (104g) and animal bone (233g).

Wall M1045 (6 x 0.80 x 0.40m) was orientated E/W and had returned to the south at both ends (DP 11-14). The foundation trench (F1043) had straight sides and a flat base (6m x 0.80+ x 0.16m) and in this was a thin bedding deposit of mortar with CBM and gravel. The wall (M1045) was made of yellow and occasional red bricks (0.22 x 0.11 x 0.065m) bonded with yellow mortar. The wall was heavily truncated in



its central and western part. The backfill (L1043) in the foundation trench was mid greyish brown, firm clayey silt, and contained no finds. It formed the northern end of Building S1046, probably a square/rectangular structure orientated N/S or EW.

Wall M1025 (1.80+ x 0.31 x 1.05+m) was located to the immediate N of M1045. It was L-shaped in plan, running N/S with the E/W return at the S end having been built against Wall M1045. It was made of red bricks (0.23 x 0.10m) and concrete and had a pebble-dashed render on its eastern face. M1025 was identical in character (without the pebble-dash) as Wall M1028 (0.80+ x 0.20m), however M1028 was only observed in the N section of the trench. Both walls together probably created a square/rectangular structure, S1029 (2.70 x 1.80+m). The interior of this structure and building S1046 was filled with L1047, a layer of modern demolition material mixed with mid greyish brown, loose silt. This deposit contained CBM, glass, concrete blocks etc. Within building S1029 this material was excavated to a depth of 1.60m below ground level and it still continued suggesting that S1029 was probably a cellar.

M1042 (3+ x 0.40 x 0.35m) was a concrete wall foundation, orientated N/S and E/W, having its corner within the trench (DP 13-14). The area contained by the wall foundation was common to the interior of S1029 and was filled with L1047. M1042 may have been either part of S1029, or separate annex.

S1037 was a structure comprising two walls (M1033 and M1036) visible only in the N facing section at the W end of the trench, although it is possible that it was a single 2.50m long wall with its face removed. Both walls were made of yellow bricks (0.22 x 0.07 x 0.11m) and measured 0.11 x 0.39m. Between the two walls two layers were located. L1038, a basal deposit above subsoil L1051, was mid to dark yellowish grey, firm clayey silt. It contained no finds. The upper fill was L1039, mid brownish grey with dark brown and black mottling, firm clayey silt. It contained frequent modern CBM rubble, glass, ash and refuse.

#### 7.4 Trench 4 (Fig. 10; DP 17)

##### *Sample sections:*

<i>North-west end, south-west facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 88.40m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.05m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.05 – 0.60m	L1019	Mid brownish orange, loose sandy silt.
0.60m +	M1021	Concrete structure.

*Table 7. Trench 4, sample section 11*

<i>South-east end, south-west facing</i> <i>0.00 = 87.95m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.11m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.11 – 0.59m	L1019	As above.
0.59 – 0.67m	L1020	Light brown, compact clay.
0.67m +	M1021	Concrete structure. As above.
0.67m +	L1022	Light grey, compact layer of mixed mortar with charcoal and silt.

*Table 8. Trench 4, sample section 10 (DP 18)*

*Description of results:*

Trench 4 contained one feature (M1021).

M1021 was located within most of the trench (15.5 x 1.80m). It was probably a surface or base of an unknown structure, made mostly of white/light grey concrete (DP 17-18). It consisted of thin strips (0.40m wide) of concrete, orientated E/W and spaced c. 0.60m apart, and compacted mortar with CBM in between. M1021 was not excavated. The feature was truncated by a modern gas service trench located at the NW end of the trench.

7.5 Trench 5 (Fig. 10; DP 19)

*Sample sections:*

<i>West end, north facing</i> <i>0.00 = 86.80m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.09m	L1058	Surface of car park. Light grey gravel.
0.09 – 0.21m	L1059	Yellow firm sand with CBM rubble.
0.21 – 0.27m	L1060	Black burnt, firm sandy silt.
0.27 – 0.51m	L1061	Layer of red CBM and flint gravel rubble.
0.51m +	L1006	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 9. Trench 5, sample section 13 (DP 22)*

<i>East end, north facing</i> <i>0.00 = 86.71m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.06m	L1058	As above.
0.06 – 0.09m	L1059	As above.
0.09 – 0.33m	L1060	As above.
0.33 – 0.51m	L1061	As above.
0.51m +	L1006	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 10. Trench 5, sample section 12*

*Description of results:*

Trench 5 contained three archaeological features: Ditch F1052, Pit F1054 and Posthole F1056.

F1052 was a linear feature orientated NW/SE (9.00+ x 0.70 x 0.15m). It had moderate sides and flat base (DP 20). Its single fill, L1053, was dark bluish black, firm clayey silt. It contained post-medieval CBM (234g), animal bone (<1g) and a Fe fragment.

Pit F1054 was a circular feature located in the central part of the trench (0.52 x 0.45+ x 0.29m). It had moderate sides and irregular base (DP 21). Its fill, L1055, was dark bluish grey, firm clayey silt. It contained post-medieval CBM (48g) and animal bone (4g).

F1056 was a circular feature located next to F1054 (0.25 x 0.25 x 0.07m). It had moderate to vertical sides and an irregular base (DP 21). Its fill, L1057, was light bluish grey, firm clayey silt. It contained no finds. F1056 may have been a posthole.

## 7.6 Trench 6 (Fig. 10; DP 23)

### Sample sections:

<i>West end, south facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 86.96m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.14m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.14 – 0.53m	L1005	Dark brownish grey, friable clayey silt.
0.53m +	L1006	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 11. Trench 6, sample section 17 (DP 25)*

<i>East end, south facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 86.78m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.23m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.23 – 0.48m	L1011	Mid brownish orange, loose sandy silt.
0.48m +	L1006	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 12. Trench 6, sample section 18*

### Description of results:

Two pits (F1007 and F1009), a pond (F1012) and a wall (M1015) were present in Trench 6.

F1007 was an oval pit located at the W end of the trench (0.77 x 0.23+ x 0.19m). It exhibited near-vertical sides and a flat base (DP 25). Its single fill, L1008, was mid greyish brown, loose clayey silt with charcoal. It contained no finds.

F1009 (0.50 x 0.30 x 0.11m) was an oval pit located next to F1007. It had moderate sides and a concave base (DP 25). Its single fill, L1009, was mid greyish brown, loose clayey silt. It contained no finds.

F1012 was an irregular feature located in the central part of the trench (8m x 1.80+ x 0.80m). It had moderate sides, recorded in the section of the trench. The feature was not excavated as it had been recognised as part of the existing pond located to the immediate north of Trench 6. The fill of this feature, L1013, was mid yellowish grey, firm silty clay. It contained no finds.

M1015 (1.80+ x 0.34 x 0.24m) had been constructed over the infilled pond (F1012), and was orientated NNW/SSE. It was a slightly curved wall made of red bricks (0.24 x 0.10 x 0.10m) bonded in light grey mortar with white sand and gravel (DP 24). It was located within foundation trench F1014, a linear feature with vertical sides and flat base (1.80+ x 0.05 x 0.24m). Its single backfill, L1016, was mid greyish brown, firm clayey silt. It contained no finds.

#### 7.7 Trench 7a (Fig. 10; DP 26)

##### Sample sections:

<i>West end, north facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 86.67m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.12m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.12 – 0.26m	L1011	Made-ground. Mid brownish orange, loose sandy silt.
0.26 – 0.42m	L1017	Made-ground. Blackish grey, loose sand with white patches of mortar and with CBM
0.42m +	L1006	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 13. Trench 7a, sample section 20 (DP 27)*

<i>East end, north-west facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 86.44m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.26m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.26 – 0.36m	L1011	Made-ground. As above.
0.36 – 0.74m	L1018	Mid brownish grey, compact clayey silt.
0.74m +	L1006	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 14. Trench 7a, sample section 21 (DP 28)*

##### Description of results:

No archaeological features or finds were present.

#### 7.8 Trench 7b (Fig. 11; DP 29)

##### Sample sections:

<i>West end, south facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 89.87m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.27m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.27 – 0.57m	L1051	Subsoil. As above.
0.57m +	L1006	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 13. Trench 7b, sample section 23 (DP 30)*

<i>East end, south facing</i> <i>0.00 = 89.71m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.28m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.28 – 0.51m	L1051	Subsoil. As above.
0.51m +	L1006	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 14. Trench 7b, sample section 22*

*Description of results:*

No archaeological features or finds were present.

7.9 Trench 8 (Fig. 11; DP 31)

*Sample sections:*

<i>West end, north facing</i> <i>0.00 = 77.58m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.36m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.36 – 0.72m	L1001	Subsoil. Light greyish brown, firm clayey silt.
0.72m +	L1002	Natural light brownish yellow, compact clay.

*Table 15. Trench 8, sample section 24 (DP 33)*

<i>East end, north facing</i> <i>0.00 = 78.38m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.30 – 0.62m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.62m +	L1002	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 16. Trench 8, sample section 25*

*Description of results:*

No archaeological features or finds were present.

7.10 Trench 9 (Fig. 11; DP 32)

*Sample sections:*

<i>North end, east facing</i> <i>0.00 = 70.34m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.29m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.29 – 0.45m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.45m +	L1002	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 17. Trench 9, sample section 27 (DP 34)*

<i>South end, east facing</i> <i>0.00 = 78.40m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.32m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.32 – 0.72m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.72m +	L1002	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 18. Trench 9, sample section 28*

*Description of results:*

No archaeological features or finds were present. Trench 9 was cut through a visible earthwork (Fig. 8).

## 7.11 Trench 10 (Fig. 11; DP 35)

*Sample sections:*

<i>West end, south facing</i> <i>0.00 = 73.90m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.12m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.12 – 0.48m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.48m +	L1002	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 19. Trench 10, sample section 30*

<i>East end, south facing</i> <i>0.00 = 73.90m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.10m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.10 – 0.62m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.62m +	L1002	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 20. Trench 10, sample section 29 (DP 36)*

*Description of results:*

No archaeological features or finds were present.

## 7.12 Trench 11 (Fig. 11; DP 37)

*Sample sections:*

<i>West end, south facing</i> <i>0.00 = 75.34m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.18m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.18 – 0.48m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.48m +	L1002	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 21. Trench 11, sample section 31*

<i>East end, south facing</i> <i>0.00 = 75.57m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.18m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.18 – 0.52m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.52m +	L1002	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 22. Trench 11, sample section 32 (DP 39)*

*Description of results:*

No archaeological features or finds were present.

## 7.13 Trench 12 (Fig. 11; DP 38)

*Sample sections:*

<i>North end, east facing</i> <i>0.00 = 74.08m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.13m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.13 – 0.49m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.49m +	L1002	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 23. Trench 12, sample section 33 (DP 40)*

<i>South end, east facing</i> <i>0.00 = 73.22m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.14m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.14 – 0.58m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.58m +	L1066	Natural. Mid brownish orange, compact silty clay with red mineral inclusions.

*Table 24. Trench 12, sample section 34**Description of results:*

No archaeological features or finds were present.

## 7.14 Trench 13 (Fig. 12; DP 41)

*Sample sections:*

<i>West end, south facing</i> <i>0.00 = 72.35m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.13m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.13 – 0.53m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.53m +	L1066	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 25. Trench 13, sample section 36*

<i>East end, south facing</i> <i>0.00 = 72.21m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.09m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.09 – 0.40m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.40m +	L1066	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 26. Trench 13, sample section 35 (DP 42)**Description of results:*

No archaeological features or finds were present.



## 7.15 Trench 14 (Fig. 12; DP 43)

*Sample sections:*

<i>North end, east facing</i> <i>0.00 = 75.44m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.13m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.13 – 0.61m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.61m +	L1002	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 27. Trench 14, sample section 37 (DP 44)*

<i>South end, east facing</i> <i>0.00 = 74.53m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.09m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.09 – 0.31m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.31m +	L1002	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 28. Trench 14, sample section 38**Description of results:*

No archaeological features or finds were present.

## 7.16 Trench 15 (Fig. 12; DP 45)

*Sample sections:*

<i>West end, south facing</i> <i>0.00 = 73.59m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.08m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.08 – 0.49m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.49m +	L1002	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 29. Trench 15, sample section 39*

<i>East end, south facing</i> <i>0.00 = 73.91m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.11m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.11 – 0.52m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.52m +	L1002	Natural clay. As above.

*Table 30. Trench 15, sample section 40 (DP 47)**Description of results:*

Trench 15 contained one archaeological feature F1003.

F1003 was a linear feature orientated N/S (1.80+ x 1.05 x 0.25m). It had moderate sloping sides and concave base (DP 46). Its fill, L1004, was mid bluish grey, firm clayey silt. It contained part of possible Cu alloy buckle.

## **8 CONFIDENCE RATING**

8.1 It is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features or finds. In Trenches 12 and 14, water flowing down the natural slope accumulated in the southern parts of the trenches, but the trenches were cleaned and examined for archaeological features before this process, but no archaeological features were present.

## **9 DEPOSIT MODEL**

9.1 Topsoil (L1000) and subsoils (L1001 and L1051) commonly overlay the natural drift geology at between 0.30-1.07m below existing and were present in all trenches except Trenches 4, 6 and 7a, where subsoils were not reached during excavation or were replaced by modern deposits. L1001, a light greyish brown, firm clayey silt, was located in trenches in the southern part of the site (Trenches 8-15), down the natural slope. A substantial depth in the lower part of the slope was suggestive of colluvial. L1051, light yellowish brown, compact clayey silt, was located on the top of the slope, in the northern part of the site.

9.2 In the northern part of the site, the subsoil overlay natural mid brownish yellow, compact clay with chalk (1006). In the southern part of the site, the natural clay was a light brownish yellow, compact deposit (1002). In Trenches 12 and 13, L1066 was present. It was mid brownish orange, compact silty clay with red mineral inclusions.

## **10 DISCUSSION**

### **Summary of the archaeology**

10.1 The evaluation revealed archaeological features and finds located in the northern part of the site, whilst the only feature in the southern part, F1003, was situated in Trench 15. Features located within the site dated mainly to the 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, though Ditch F1048 has been dated to late Iron Age / early Roman period and Ditch F1003 remained undated.

10.2 A small post-medieval ditch (F1052) and pit were located in Trench 5 and in Trench 5 another small pit (F1056) was undated. There were two further undated pits in Trench 6.

10.3 Remains of 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> Century buildings were located in Trenches 3, 4 and 6 although the latter may represent a 19<sup>th</sup> century boundary wall.

### **Interpretation of the site: archaeology and history**

10.3 As stated above there is not much late Iron Age activity in this part of Bishop's Stortford. Ditch F1048 (Trench 3), which in its fill L1049 contained pottery dated to the very late Iron Age (100 BC – 43 AD), however this was found in associated with some fragments of Roman roof tile, suggesting that the pottery was either residual or

was early Roman. As there were no other features of this date revealed within the trenches the character of the ditch remains unknown, but it was likely to have been a boundary ditch or part an enclosure.

10.4 Although Ditch F1003 (Trench 15) remained undated, the cartographic sources for this site do not show any boundary which could be clearly associated with it suggesting that it may predate the earliest map of 1898

10.5 Concrete structure M1021, located within Trench 4, can be associated with the farm buildings that first appear on the 1898 OS map (Fig. 6) and that are further developed by the 1921 OS map (Fig. 7). Also Wall M1015 (Trench 6) could be associated with the boundary wall in existence from at least 1839 (Fig. 4) or the buildings present on 1921 OS map (Fig. 7), to the north of Venn House.

10.6 The 1921 OS map (Fig. 7) also shows two buildings just to the north-west of Trench 3. It is likely that it was these buildings that were located in the trench (S1029, S1037, S1047).

### **Interpretation of the site: geology and topography**

10.7 The natural clay was noticeably chalkier in the higher areas in the northern part of the site. Colluvium was recorded down the slope in the southern half of the site.

10.8 Deposits above the natural clays did not significantly vary in thickness in the trenches, except Trench 3, where modern rubble had accumulated because of the demolition of the buildings located in this trench.

10.9 Feature F1064 was natural in origin and likely to have been a silted up part of the pond located to the north of it.

10.10 Remains of some previous earthworks were recorded in two parts of the site (Fig. 8). Also in the NW corner, where Trenches 1, 2 and 7b were located, land had been flattened and terraced for the 20<sup>th</sup> century construction of tennis courts. In the S/SE part of the site, some evidence of topsoil removal in the past was noted.

### **Preservation of archaeology**

10.11 The archaeology found within the site was well preserved. The late Iron Age to Roman Ditch F1048 was sealed by subsoil L1051 and was not badly truncated, although a part of it had been removed by Wall M1046. The remains of the foundations for the modern buildings were also well preserved.

### **Research potential**

10.12 The part of the site around Trench 3 may have the potential for archaeological remains of the very late Iron Age to Roman period. If this does represent a feature dating to this transitional period then it potentially has a certain regional significance.

## ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with the finds from the site, at Bishop's Stortford Museum. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency. In addition to the overall site summary, it will be necessary to produce a summary of the artefactual and ecofactual data.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank Mr Robert Parr of Zinc Construction Ltd for commissioning this project, and for his kind assistance on site.

AS would also like to acknowledge the staff at HALS for their help with archival work. Thanks are also due to the staff at Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies (HALS), and Ms Isobel Thompson of HCC HER.

AS would also like to acknowledge the input and advice of Ms. Alison Tinniswood of HCC HEU.

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## APPENDIX 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATABASE (HER)

HER	NGR TL	Description
<b>Prehistoric (to AD 43)</b>		
2133	4855 2190	Mesolithic flints found in 1963 at No. 35 Barreldown Road
2849	4890 2190	Excavation in 1966 at The Meads found a tranchet axe, several flakes and cores and some pottery suggestive of possible Mesolithic occupation
13312	48620 22188	An ovate Palaeolithic handaxe found in 1987 at No. 19 Lindsey Road
<b>Romano-British (AD 43 – 410)</b>		
127	4790 2190	Late Roman 4 <sup>th</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup> century pottery sherds and ironwork found in the footings of a new estate along Stane Street
1342	4820 2180	Two Roman coins, one of Hadrian, the other illegible found c. 1950 to the west of Oak Hall on Cricketfield Lane
2134	4880 2212	A bronze Urbs Roma of Constantinian (AD 308 - 337) and pottery sherds found in the garden of the Fox Inn, Rye Street, in 1954
2143	4885 2235	Roman coin of Antoninus Pius found in 1959 to the south-west of The Grange
2296	4815 2185	Roman coins of Constantine (306 - 337), sestertius and dupondius of Hadrian (117 - 138), found in 1936 or 1967 in a ditch to the south of Cricketfield Lane
6505	4895 2207	Excavation in advance of building work at Grange Paddocks revealed a small concentration of pits and post holes cut into gravel dumps representing two distinct phases of Roman occupation dated to the 1 <sup>st</sup> and later 3 <sup>rd</sup> century
12051	4893 2212	Linear ditches interpreted as enclosures or field boundaries, containing 2 <sup>nd</sup> - 3 <sup>rd</sup> century pottery, and finds of human and animal bone, brick, tile and unidentifiable iron objects suggestive of Roman occupation and cemetery at Grange Paddocks
<b>Medieval (AD 1066 - 1500)</b>		
2830	4870 2200	Crabb's Cross stood at Rye Street, probably at its intersection with an ancient way, but was destroyed either at the Reformation or during the Commonwealth
<b>Post-medieval (AD 1500 – 1750)</b>		
11100	4777 2205	The range of farm buildings at Dane O'Coys Farm is brick and weatherboarded, does not appear to form part of a planned layout, whilst the farmhouse is early 16 <sup>th</sup> century in date
<b>Early modern (AD 1750 – 1900)</b>		

6856	4865 2210	Brickworks identified on Lindsey Road from the 1898 second edition OS map and visible at ground level as a large pit
6857	4855 2240	Windmill along Whitehall Lane first shown on Bryant's map of 1822, and probably built only a few years previously
10007	4875 2221	Former cottage hospital on Rye Street, now converted to residential use, presumably flats
10230	4900 2225	A series of water meadow drains beside the River Stort to the north of Bishop's Stortford
10754	4803 2168	The old grammar school in the town centre was demolished and relocated to the site on Hadham Road probably in the 1860s, but closed in 1930 and has since been demolished and replaced by Springfield Court
10759	4804 2227	The 19 <sup>th</sup> century Volunteer Corps rifle range to the north of Cricket Field Lane is marked on the 1874 - 79 OS map with a target 'butt' at its west end and the range extending approximately 400m to the east
10760	4765 2203	Barracks of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Hertfordshire Light Horse Volunteer Corps built in 1865 by John Dobede Fairman, a wealthy local maltster, on land that he owned in Silver Leys, and comprising a single storey brick structure with a slate roof
11590	4870 2200	Milestone on Rye Street with the numeral '29', located on the 'old' route maintained by the Hockerill Highway Trust, which formed part of the road from London to Newmarket and Cambridge
15327	4840 2245	Whitehall comprises a farmstead with ranges of buildings around a yard located to the south of Dane O'Coys Road, with 20 <sup>th</sup> century college buildings to the west of the farm
15328	48845 22822	Foxdells Farm on Foxdells Lane comprises a mid 19 <sup>th</sup> century two storey farmhouse and matching barn in red brick with white brick dressings and roof of old red tile
15329	4889 2249	The Grange on Foxdells Lane/Rye Street comprises a large early 19 <sup>th</sup> century country house, altered in the mid 19 <sup>th</sup> century and now divided into several properties



## APPENDIX 2 CARTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

Date	Description	Fig. No.	Scale	Location
1822	Bishop's Stortford & Farnham enclosure map	-	-	HALS
1839	Bishop's Stortford tithe map	4	-	HALS
1877	Plan of Whitehall Farm	5	-	HALS
1898	Hertfordshire sheet XXIII.5 & XXIII.6; 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map	6	25: 1 mile	HALS
1921	Hertfordshire sheet XXIII.5 & XXIII.6; 3 <sup>rd</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map	7	25: 1 mile	HALS
1999	Ordnance Survey Explorer series 194; site location	1 & 3	1:25,000	AS
2009	Detailed site location plan	2	1:1,000	Client
2009	Trench location plan	8	1:1,000	Client

### Documents consulted at HALS;

Whitehall Farm deeds, 1741 – 1893	Ref. D/E Te/T5-6
Bishop's Stortford & Farnham enclosure map, 1822	Ref. QS/E/82
Bishop's Stortford & Farnham enclosure award, 1826	Ref. QS/E/82
Bishop's Stortford tithe map, 1839	Ref. DSA4/21/2
Bishop's Stortford tithe award, 1839	Ref. DSA4/21/1
Plan of Whitehall Farm, 1877	Ref. D/E Te/T5-6
Whitehall & 139a, The Grange deeds, 1891 – 1947	Ref. D/ETe(Add)T2

### APPENDIX 3 FINDS CONCORDANCE

Feature	Context	Trench	Description	Spot Date	Pottery	CBM (g)	A.Bone (g)	Other
1003	1004			Undated				
1048	1049		Ditch Fill	Late Iron Age/Roman	(32), 257g	104	233	Cu alloy Buckle fragment (1) 2g
1052	1053	5	Ditch Fill	Post-medieval		234	<1	Fe Fragment (1), 30g
1054	1055	5	Pit/Posthole Fill	Post-medieval		48	4	

## **APPENDIX 4 THE FINDS**

### **The Pottery**

*Andrew Peachey*

Trial trench excavations recovered a total of 33 fragments (267g) of slightly abraded, late Iron Age 'Belgic' pottery from Ditch F1048 (L1049). The forms and fabrics recorded strongly suggest a pre-conquest date, probably within the late 1<sup>st</sup> century BC to mid 1<sup>st</sup> century AD. The pottery is in a slightly to moderately abraded condition and contains a low degree of diagnostic material.

#### *Fabrics*

All sherds are in southern British ('Belgic') grog-tempered fabrics (Tomber and Dore 1998, 214), although at least three fabric variants occur within this category:

Fabric 1: Red-orange to black surfaces and a dark grey core. Inclusions comprise common angular grog (0.2-5mm) with sparse gritty sand, predominantly quartz but also including flint and calcitic grains. Hand made.

Fabric 2: Orange-brown to black surfaces and a dark grey core. Inclusions comprise common angular multi-coloured grog (0.2-5mm), with occasional quartz and voids (burnt organics). Grass or straw like impressions or voids are particularly noticeable on un-burnished surfaces and suggest the vessels were dried or packed in organic material prior to firing. Hand made but finished on a slow wheel.

Fabric 3: Red-brown to black surfaces and a dark grey core. Inclusions comprise sparse fine grog (<2mm), sparse quartz (0.1-0.25mm) and sparse fine silver mica. Probably hand made but finished on a slow wheel.

#### *Forms*

Fabric 1 is represented by 20 sherds (85g) probably derived from a single vessel. These relatively small body sherds include sparse cross-joining fragments and are decorated with crude, shallow combing, probably identifying them with a rilled jar form although this cannot be confirmed.

Fabric 2 is represented by 12 sherds (173g) from at least three vessels. Three large cross-joining sherds belonged to a vessel with a corrugated, burnished neck, probably a relatively large, tall jar (Thompson 1982: types B2-3 or B2-4), or possibly a similar bowl (Thompson 1982: type D2-4). The remaining small sherds include at least one plain neck/shoulder cordon from an unidentified vessel and a body sherd with partial faceted burnishing.

Fabric 3 is limited to a single sherd (9g), possibly from the base of an unidentified vessel.

#### *Bibliography*

Thompson, I. 1982 *Grog-Tempered 'Belgic' Pottery of South-eastern England*. BAR 108

Tomber, R. and Dore, J. 1998 *The National Roman Fabric Reference Collection*. Museum of London, London

## **The Ceramic Building Materials**

*Andrew Peachey*

Trial trench excavations recovered a total of 17 fragments (386g) of CBM including Roman and post-medieval material. The CBM is in a fragmented but only slightly abraded condition.

Ditch F1048 (L1049) contained 5 fragments (104g) of Roman CBM. These fragments were in a smooth, moderately hard fabric with reddish-brown surfaces (5YR 4/4-5/6) that fade to a reduced dark grey core and inclusions that comprise common quartz and sparse black iron ore (both 0.1-0.25mm) with sparse oxidised red clay pellets/grog (0.2-2mm, occasionally larger). Four small fragments in this group were cross-joining and formed part of the flange of a tegula roof tile.

Ditch F1052 (L1053) contained 7 fragments (234g) of post-medieval CBM, and Pit F1054 (L1055) a further 5 fragments (48g). These fragments were in a hard, abrasive, oxidised red (2.5YR 4/6-5/8) fabric with inclusions of common to abundant quartz (0.1-0.2mm) and occasional iron rich grains (<3mm). All fragments are from post-medieval peg tile (c.12mm thick) with diamond shaped peg holes.

## **The Animal Bone**

*Dr James Morris*

### *Introduction*

The trial trenching carried out at Whitehall Cottage, Bishops Stortford, resulted in the hand collection of 27 fragments, 238g, of animal bone. An initial scan was carried out to assess the general nature of the assemblage, its preservation and areas of further investigation. Pottery spot dating was only available for ditch F1048 which is late Iron Age to Roman. The date of the other features is unknown. The majority of the animal remains were recovered from ditch F1048.

### *Methods*

The faunal remains from each context were scanned in line with MAP2 procedures (Archaeological Solutions 2003; Davis 1992; English Heritage 1991; 2002) during which each fragment was identified to species. When it was not possible to identify to species the bones were recorded as unidentified. As the scan is to ascertain the assemblage's potential, bird and fish bones are not identified to species and are recorded as 'BIRD' and 'FISH'.

For an assessment of this nature element information was not recorded. The number of fragments with available taphonomic, butchery, ageing and metrical information was also recorded. All data was entered into a Microsoft Access database which will be included in the site archive.

### Results-preservation

The preservation of the majority of the assemblage is poor. The majority of the identified elements were fragmented (when two or more inter-fitting fragments from the same bone are present). Most elements were also eroded. The poor preservation of the assemblage has resulted in most of the fragments remaining unidentified.

### Results-species present

Trench	Spot date	Feature type	Feature	Context	Cow	S/G	Horse	Ud	Total
Trench 3	Late Iron Age to Roman	Ditch	1048	1049	4	2	2	17	<b>25</b>
Trench 5		Ditch	1052	1053		1			<b>1</b>
Trench 5		Pit	1054	1055			1		<b>1</b>
<b>Total</b>					<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>27</b>

Table 1 NISP counts for species per context. S/G=sheep/goat, Ud=unidentified

At present the animal bone assemblage from Whitehall Cottage is small, with the majority of the remains recovered from ditch F1048. All the identified elements were from domestic mammals with cattle, sheep/goat and horse present. It was not possible to identify the majority of the fragments to element or species. The majority of the unidentified remains consisted of small mammal (sheep sized) rib or long bone fragments.

### Results-further information

Due to the poor preservation, further information from the assemblage is limited. None of the elements had butchery marks or pathologies present. No mandibles were present therefore tooth wear aging is not possible. Epiphyseal fusion data is present for one cow, sheep/goat and horse bone from F1048.

### Summary of potential

At present the bone assemblage from Whitehall Cottage, Bishops Stortford is small and dominated by the elements recovered from F1048. It is recommended that no further work is necessary on the current assemblage unless the site is to be published or further work produces a larger faunal assemblage.

The preliminary scan of the assemblage indicates that bone survival on the site is poor. If further archaeological work was to take place on the site an animal bone assemblage of limited potential would be expected.

## *Bibliography*

Archaeological Solutions 2003 'Guidelines for Bone Reports', Unpublished Report

Davis, S. 1992 'A rapid method for recording information about mammal bones from archaeological sites', English Heritage, AML Report 71/92.

English Heritage 1991 '*Management of Archaeological Projects*'. English Heritage, London

English Heritage 2002 '*Environmental Archaeology. A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation*'. English Heritage, London

**APPENDIX 5  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONCORDANCE**

Sample	Size (l)	Feature	Context	Description	Spot Date	Residue (g)	Pot (g)	A. Bone (g)
1	20	1048	1049	Ditch Fill	IA-Roman			
2	20	1003	1004	Ditch Fill				



## APPENDIX 6 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD SUMMARY SHEET

<b>Site name and address:</b>	Whitehall College, Dane O'Coy's Road, Bishop's Stortford
<b>County:</b> Hertfordshire	<b>District:</b> East Hertfordshire
<b>Village/Town:</b> Bishop's Stortford	<b>Parish:</b> Bishop's Stortford
<b>Planning application reference:</b>	(EHDC) 3/1160/08/FP
<b>Client name/address/tel:</b>	Robert Parr, Zinc Construction Ltd 26 Hadham Road, Bishop's Stortford, Herts CM23 2QS 01707 876 789 / 07860 314 987
<b>Nature of application:</b>	renovation and change of use of a college building to a dwelling, demolition of several college buildings, renovation and extension of 4 college buildings and an existing barn, the construction of a replacement dwelling and 6 new dwellings and the creation of a cricket pitch/field
<b>Present land use:</b>	Detached house, buildings to be demolished and grounds
<b>Size of application area:</b> 7.32 ha.	<b>Size of area investigated:</b> 576m <sup>2</sup>
<b>NGR (8 figures):</b>	TL 6098 3083
<b>Site Code:</b>	AS 1188
<b>Site director/Organisation:</b>	Archaeological Solutions Ltd
<b>Type of work:</b>	Archaeological Evaluation
<b>Date of work:</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> to 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2009
<b>Curating museum:</b>	
<b>Related SMR Nos:</b> HER 15327	<b>Periods represented:</b> Late Iron Age & early modern/modern (19 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup> century)
<b>Relevant previous summaries/reports:</b> -	None
<b>Summary of fieldwork results:</b>	The evaluation revealed a late Iron Age to Roman period ditch as well as 19 <sup>th</sup> and early 20 <sup>th</sup> century farm buildings. Also revealed were undated pits, two ditches and part of a silted pond
<b>Author of summary:</b> Antony RR Mustchin	<b>Date of Summary:</b> 24/01/2012

## PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



DP 1. Whitehall House, Dane O'Coys Road, Bishop's Stortford. Taken from SW.



DP 2. Trial trenching. Taken from S.



DP 3. Trial trenching. Taken from NE.



DP 4. Trench 1. Taken from W.



DP 5. Trench 1. Possible pond F1064. Taken from N.



DP 6. Trench 1. Sample section, W end. Taken from N.





DP 7. Trench 2. Taken from W.



DP 8. Trench 2. Sample section, W end. Taken from N.



DP 9. Trench 3. Taken from W.



DP 10. Trench 3. Taken from E.



DP 11. Trench 3. Walls M1025 (building S1029) and M1045 (S1046). Taken from N.



DP 12. Trench 3. Walls M1025 (building S1029) and M1045 (S1046). Taken from N.





DP 13. Trench 3. Buildings S1029 and S1047. Taken from NW.



DP 14. Trench 3. Buildings S1029 and S1047 and Ditch F1048. Taken from NE.



DP 15. Trench 3. Ditch F1048. Taken from S.



DP 16. Trench 3. Sample section, W end. Taken from S.



DP 17. Trench 4. Taken from SE.



DP 18. Trench 4. Sample section, SE end. Taken from SW.





DP 19. Trench 5. Taken from E.



DP 20. Trench 5. Ditch F1052. Taken from ESE.



DP 21. Trench 5. Pit F1054 and Posthole F1056. Taken from W.



DP 22. Trench 5. Sample section, W end. Taken from N.



DP 23. Trench 6. Taken from W.



DP 24. Trench 6. Wall M1015. Taken from E.





DP 25. Trench 6. Sample section, W end and pits F1007 and F1009. Taken from S.



DP 26. Trench 7a. Taken from W.



DP 27. Trench 7a. Sample section, W end. Taken from N.



DP 28. Trench 7a. Sample section, NE end. Taken from NW.



DP 29. Trench 7b. Taken from E.



DP 30. Trench 7b. Sample section, W end. Taken from S.





DP 31. Trench 8. Taken from W.



DP 32. Trench 9. Taken from S.



DP 33. Trench 8. Sample section, W end.  
Taken from N.



DP 34. Trench 9. Sample section, N end.  
Taken from E.



DP 35. Trench 10. Taken from E.



DP 36. Trench 10. Sample section, E end.  
Taken from S.



DP 37. Trench 11. Taken from E.



DP 38. Trench 12. Taken from S.



DP 39. Trench 11. Sample section, E end.  
Taken from S.



DP 40. Trench 12. Sample section, N end.  
Taken from E.



DP 41. Trench 13. Taken from E.



DP 42. Trench 13. Sample section, E end.  
Taken from S.





DP 43. Trench 14. Taken from S.



DP 44. Trench 14. Sample section, N end.  
Taken from E.



DP 45. Trench 15. Taken from W.



DP 46. Trench 15. Ditch F1003. Taken from S.



DP 47. Trench 15. Sample section, E end.  
Taken from S.

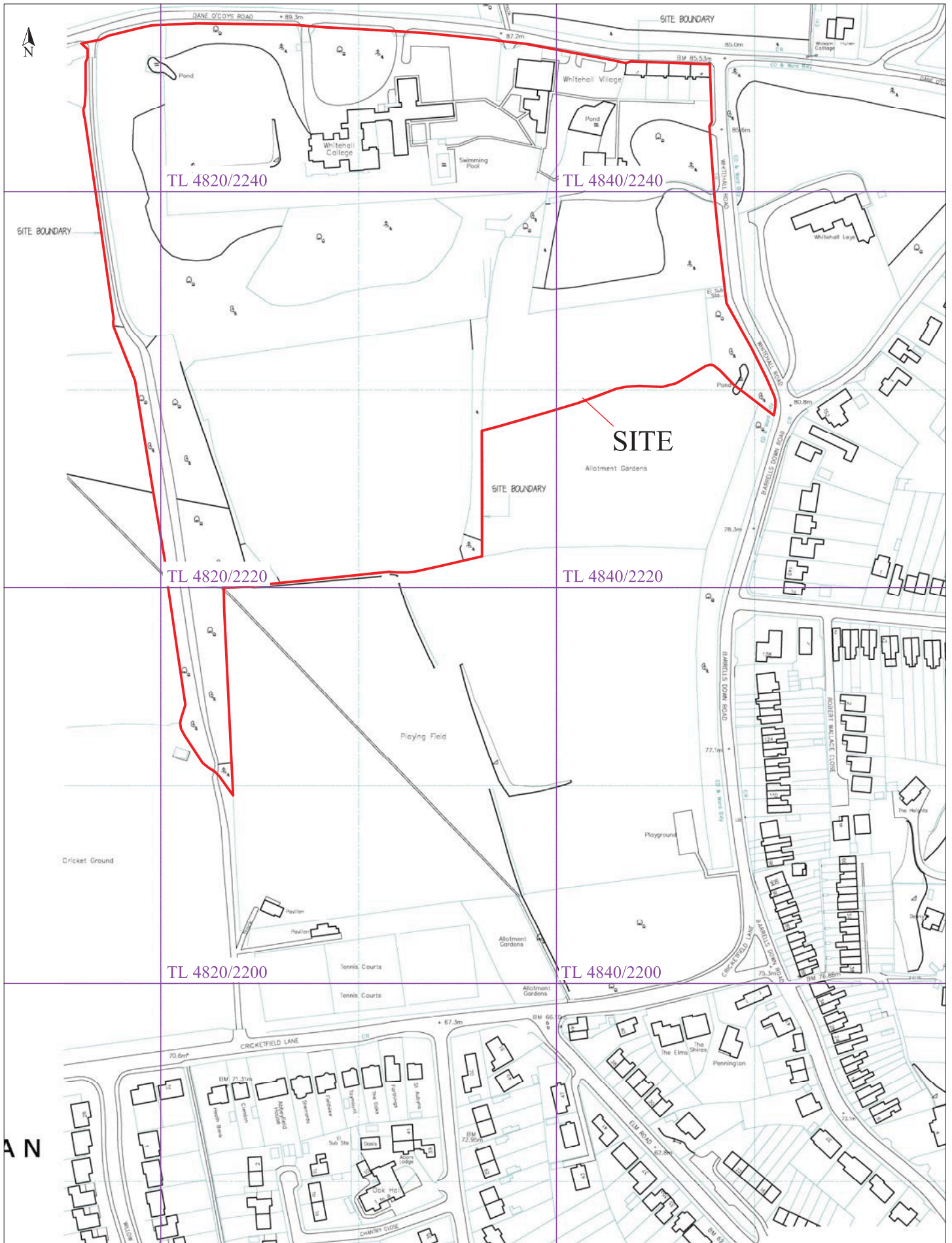




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**Fig. 1 Site location plan**  
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4

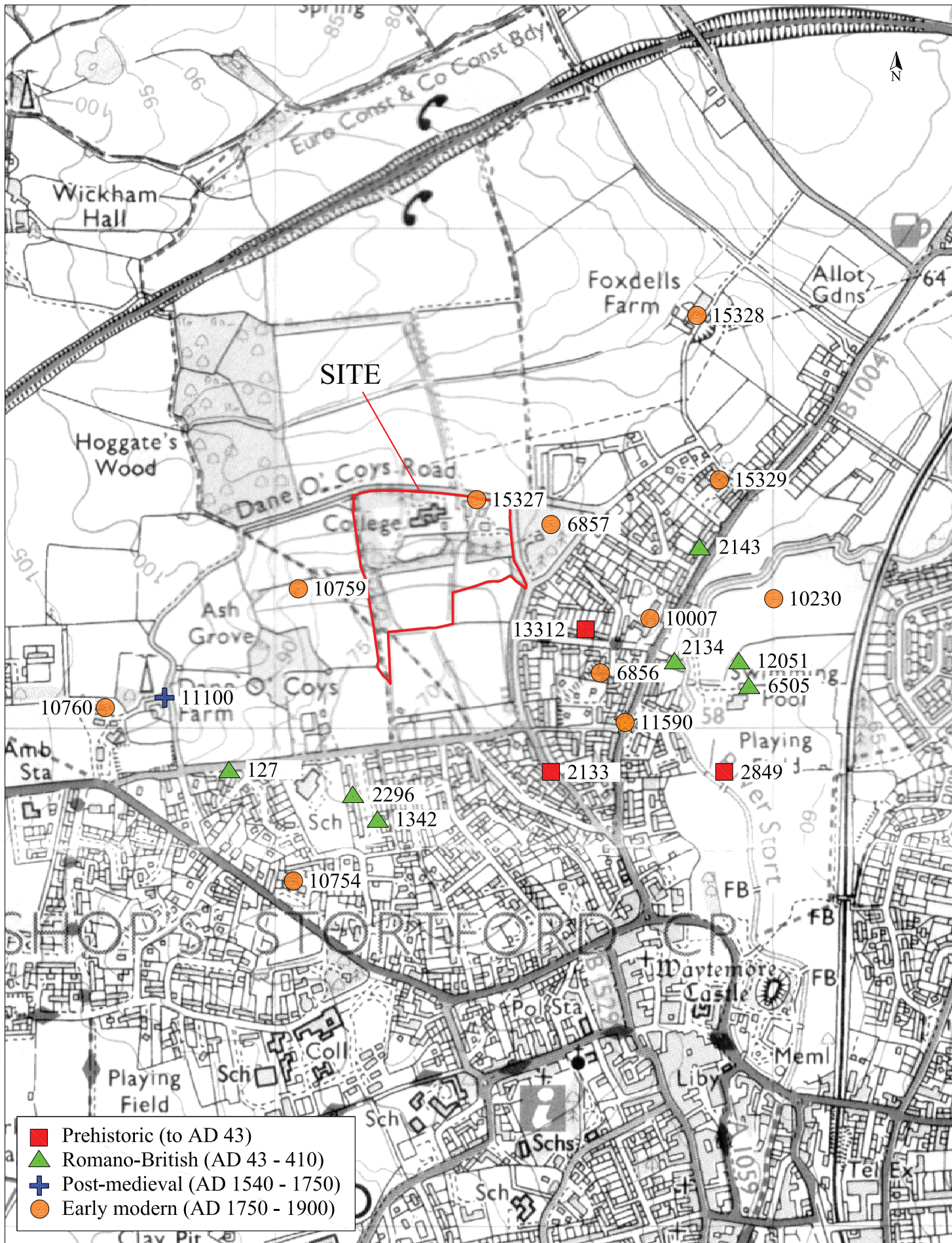




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**Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan**  
 Scale 1:2500 at A4

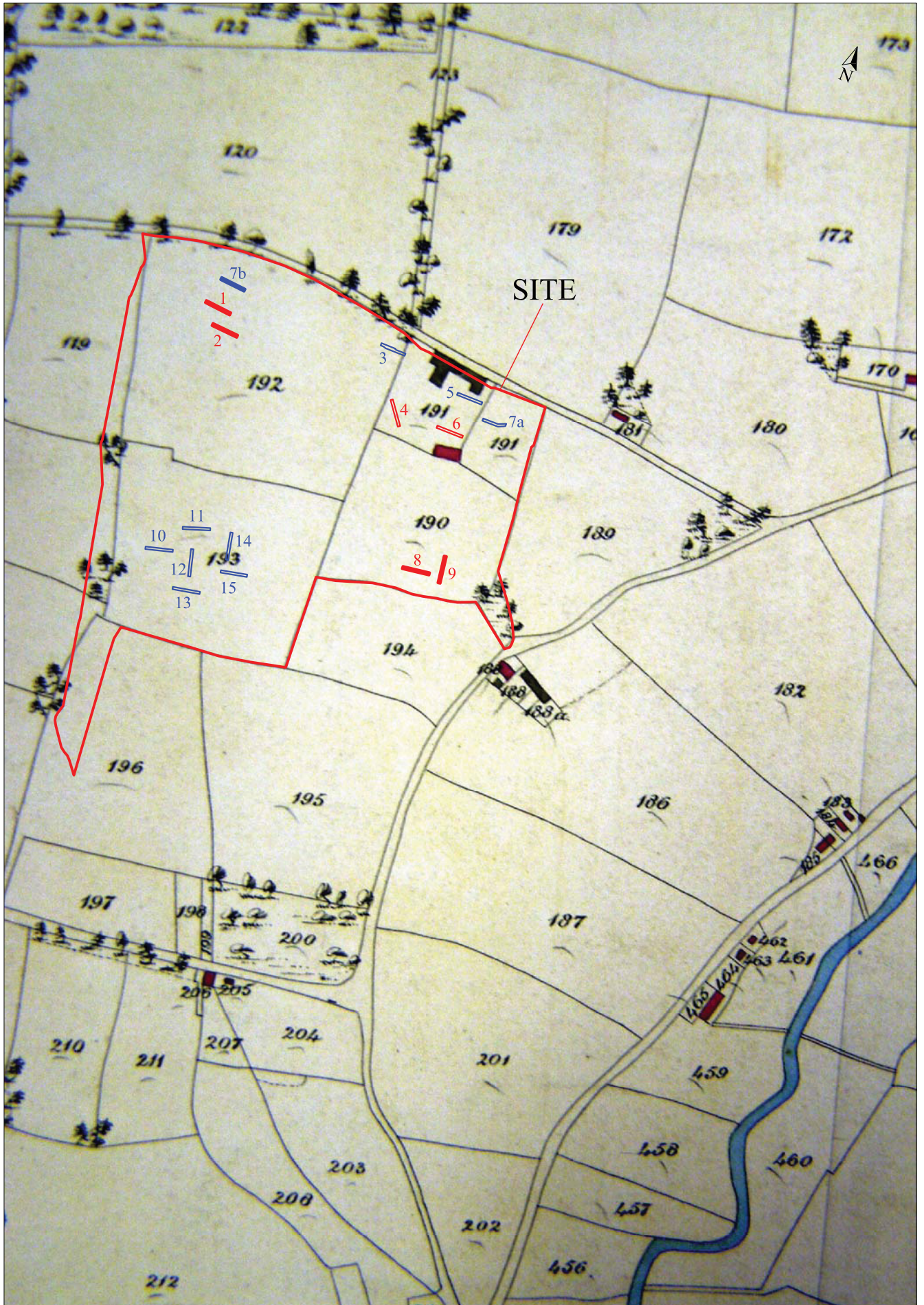




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**Fig. 3 HER data**  
 Scale 1:10,000 at A4



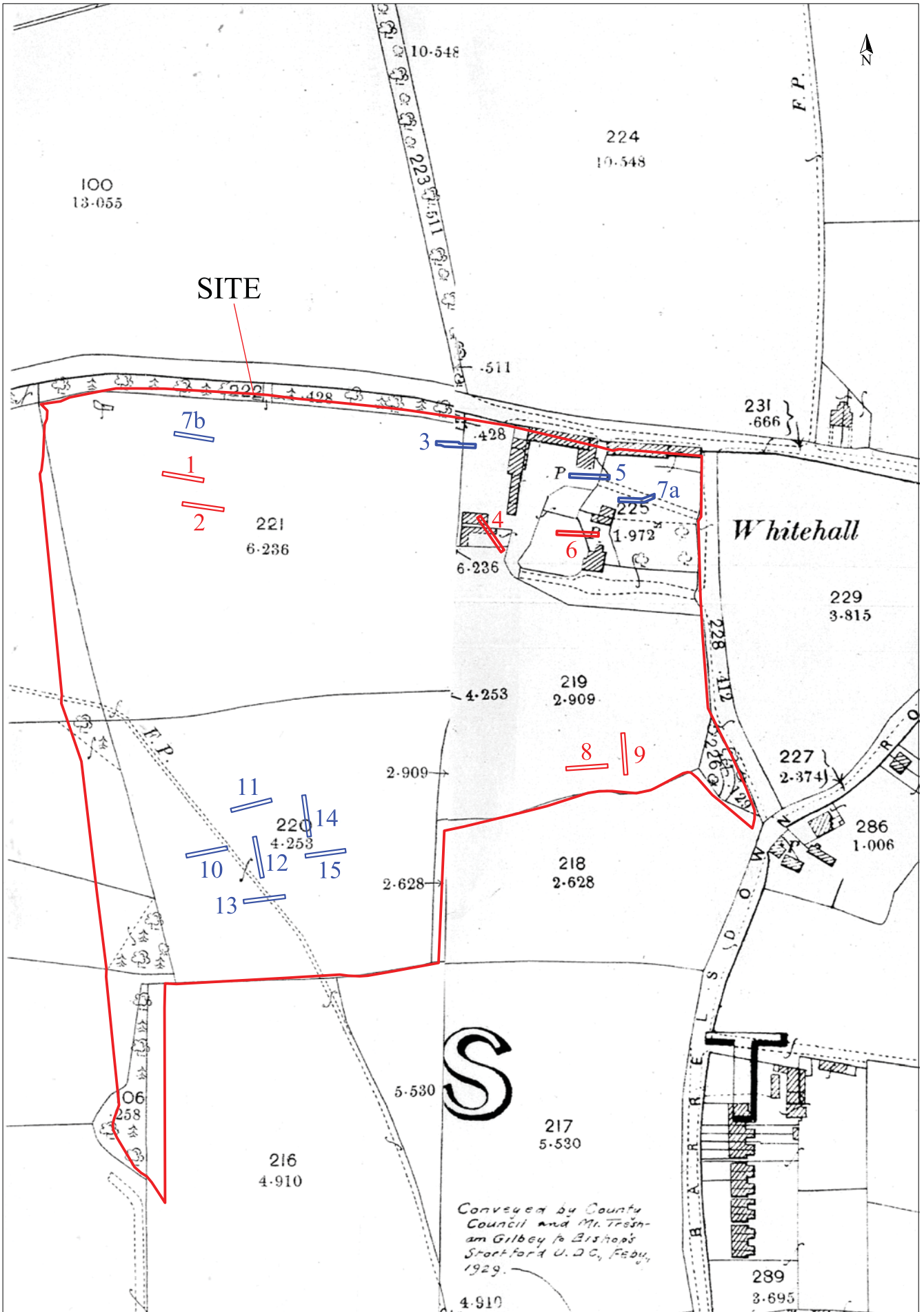


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 Fig. 4 Tithe map 1839  
 Not to scale





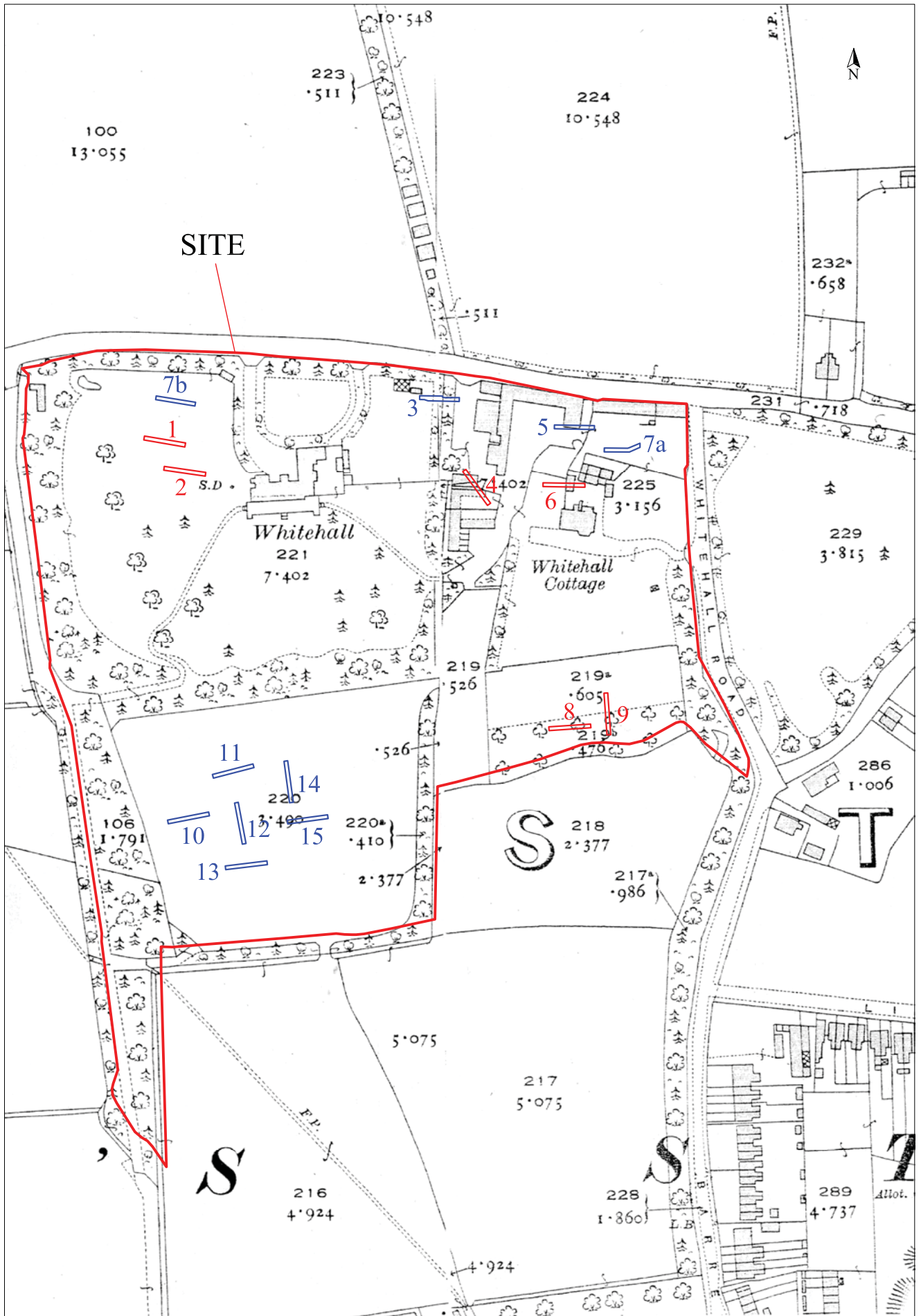
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 Fig. 5 Plan of Whitehall Farm, 1877  
 Not to scale



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**Fig. 6 1898 OS map**  
 Scale 1:2,500. Taken from the 25" to 1 mile map.





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**Fig. 7 1921 OS map**  
 Scale 1:2,500. Taken from the 25" to 1 mile map.

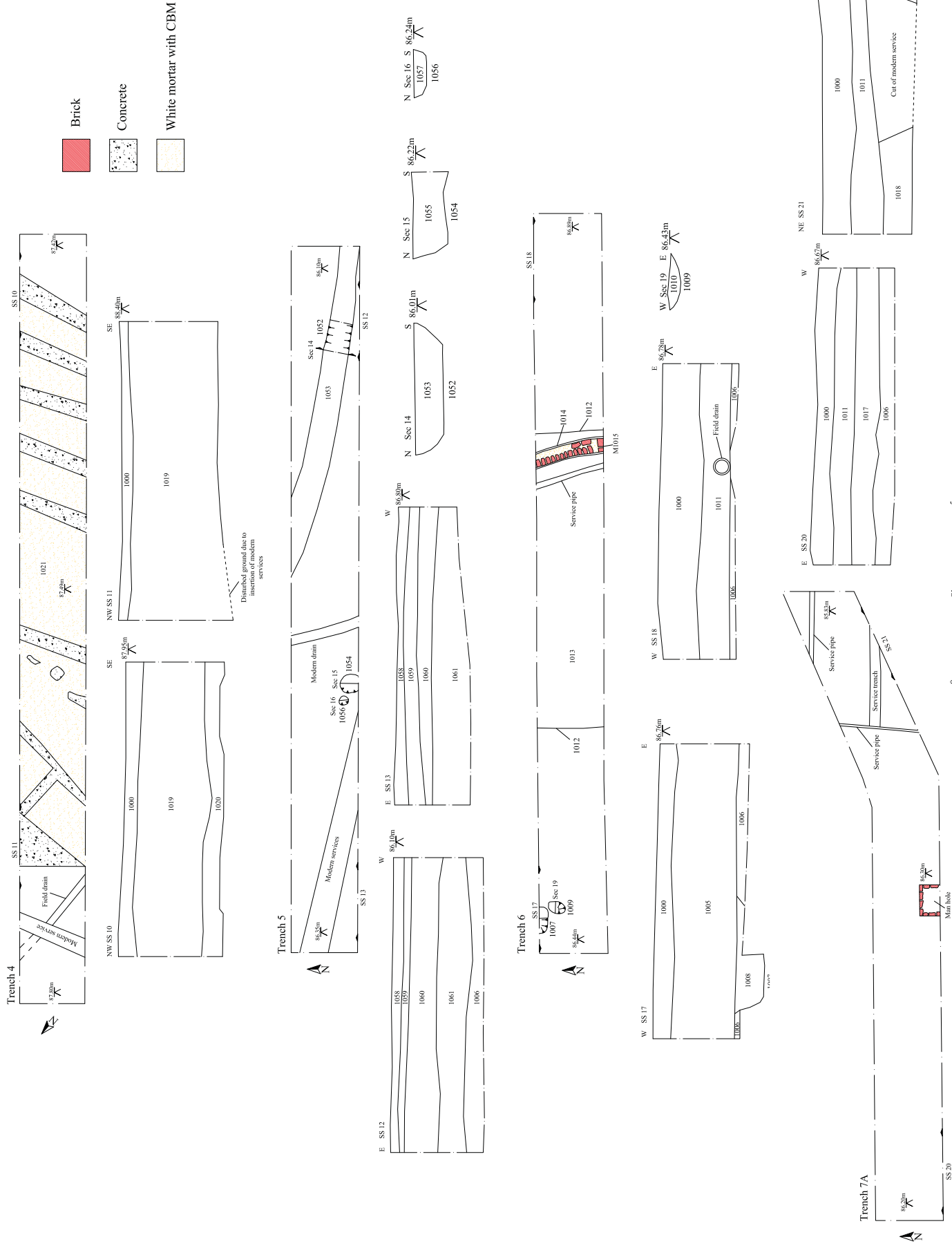




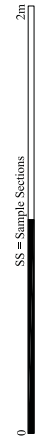
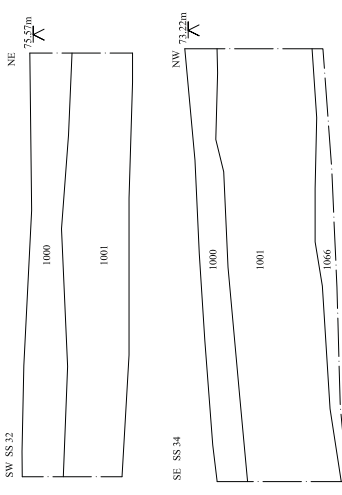
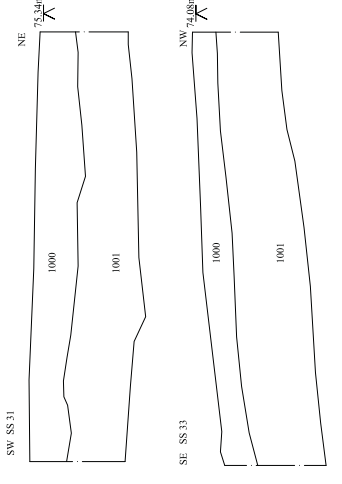
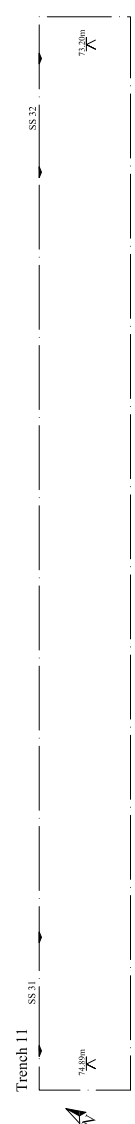
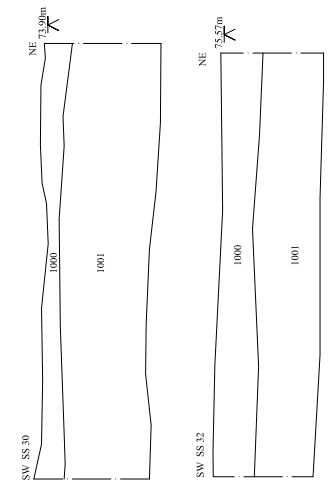
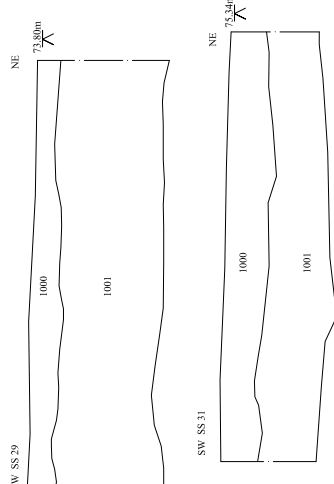
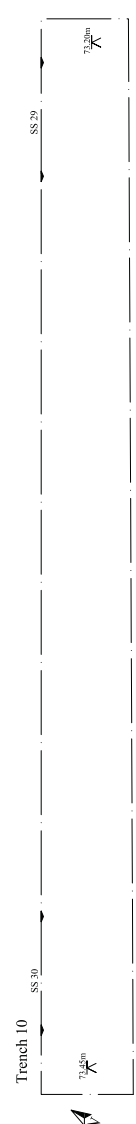
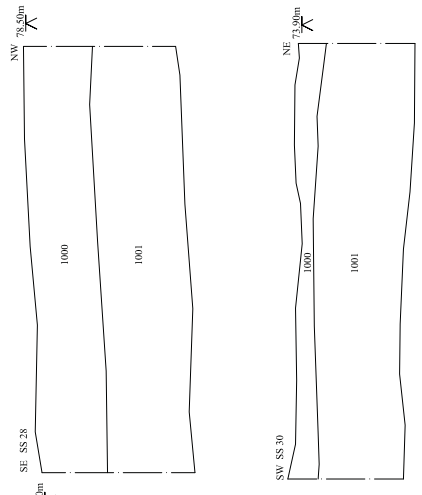
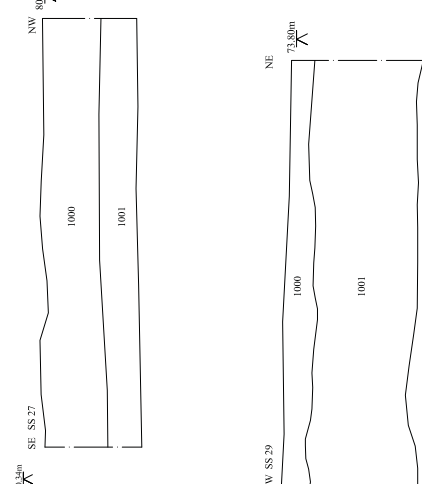
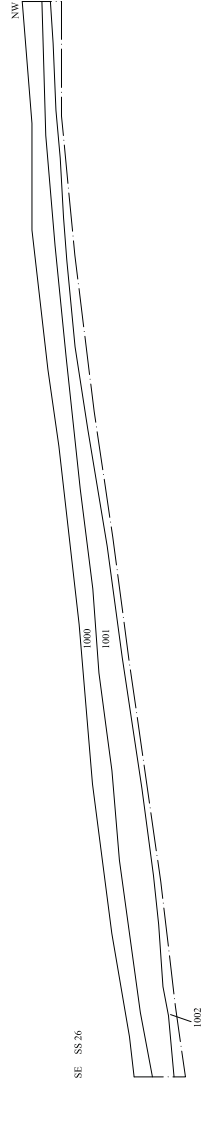
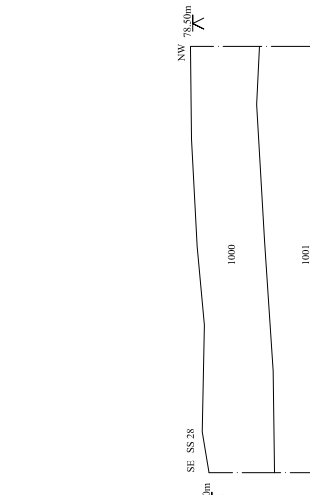
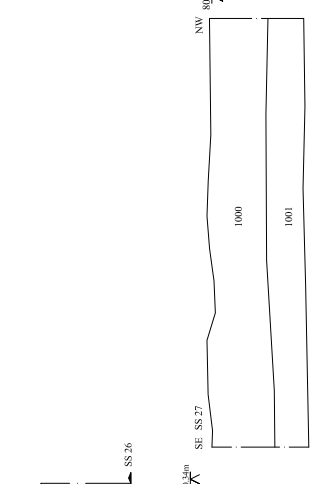
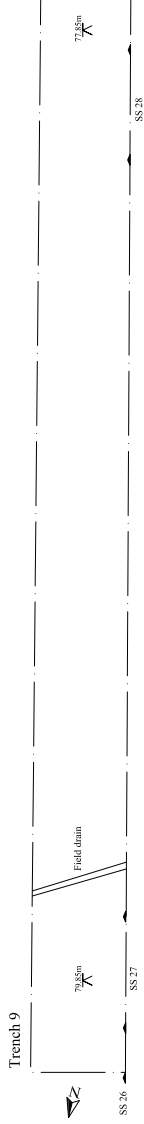
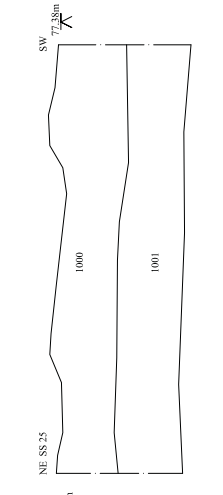
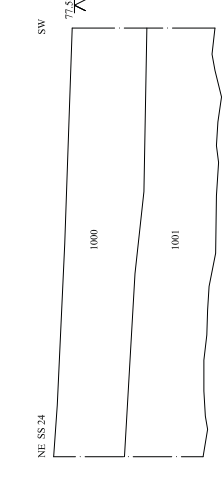
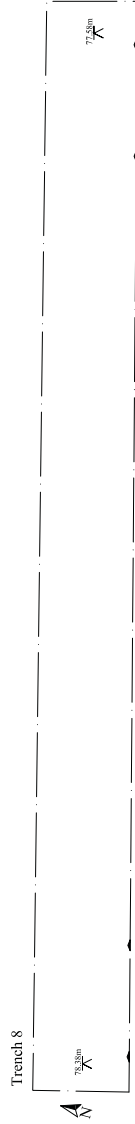
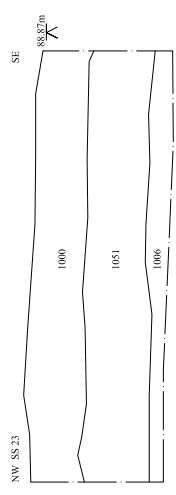
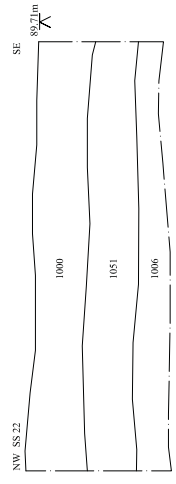
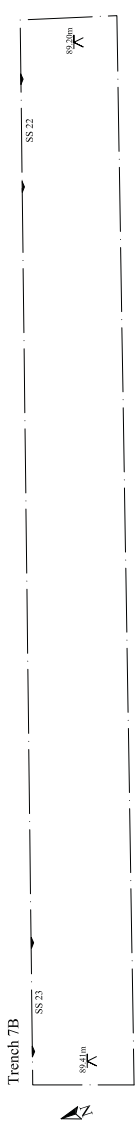
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**Fig. 8 Trench location plan**  
 Scale 1:1000 at A3

100m  
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 Earthworks



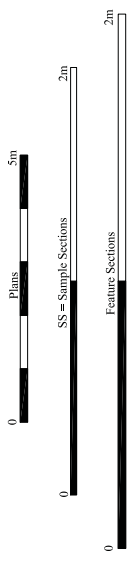
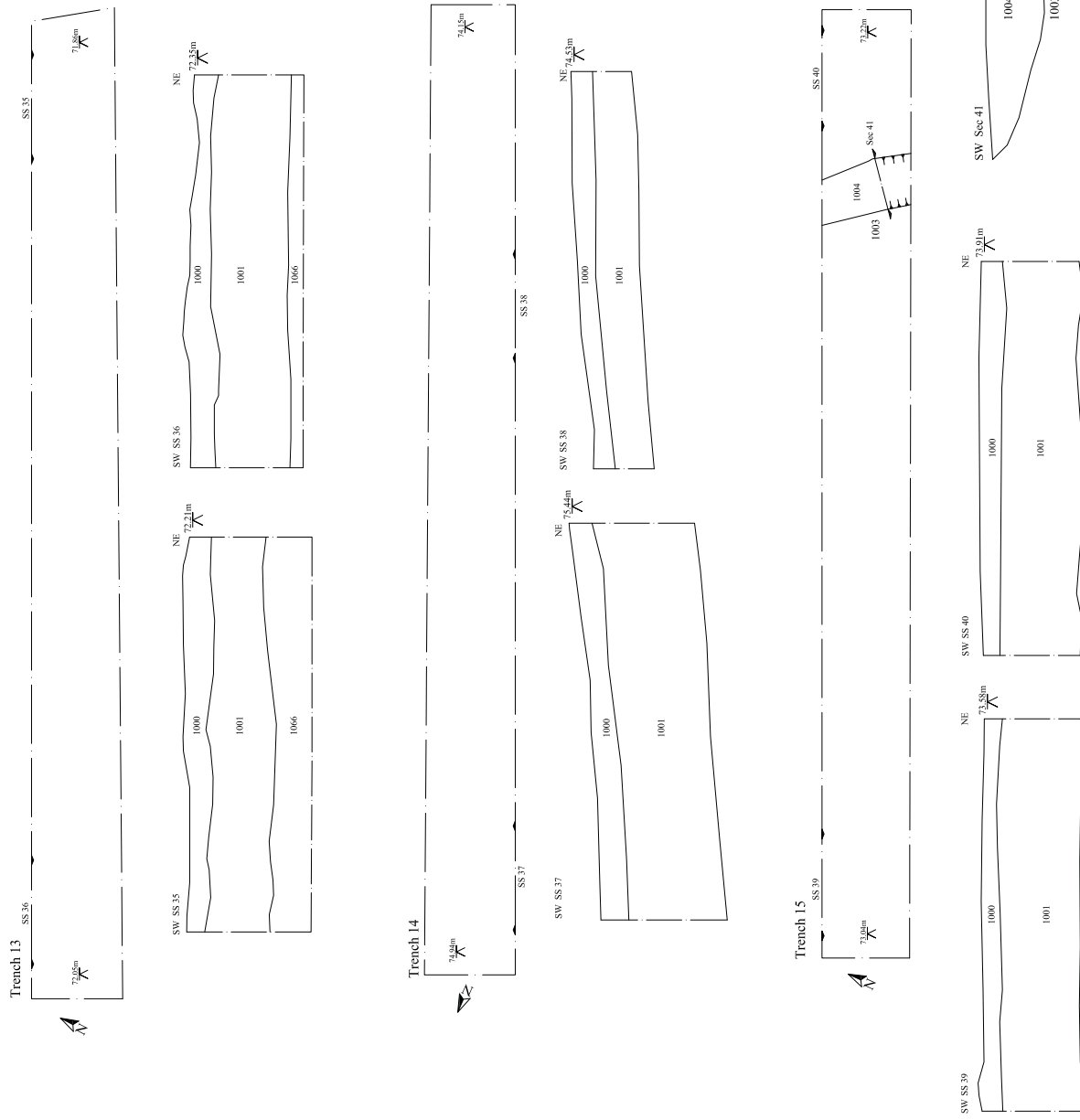


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**Fig. 10 Trench plans and Sections**  
 Scale plans at 1:100, sample sections at 1:25 & feature sections at 1:20 at A3



SS = Sample Sections

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**Fig. 11 Trench plans and Sections**  
 Scale plans & SS 25 at 1:100 & sample sections at 1:25 at A3



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**Fig. 12 Trench plans and Sections**  
 Scale plans at 1:100, sample sections at 1:25 & feature sections at 1:20 at A3